

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 03981 230845Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-14 EB-08 L-03 FRB-01
OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 ICA-20 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01
STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 ACDA-12 VOE-00 SY-05
USSS-00 FBIE-00 DODE-00 PA-02 CTME-00 CPR-01
NSC-05 /145 W

-----085418 231328Z /46

R 230654Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3338
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USUN NEW YORK 997
AMCONSUL BRISBANE
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMCONSUL PERTH
AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS CANBERRA 3981

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, SSOD, PARM, AS
SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER FRASER'S TRAVELS

1. PRIME MINISTER FRASER'S OFFICE HAS NOW CONFIRMED HIS TRAVELS DURING JUNE TO NEW YORK, LONDON, PARIS AND BONN. THE PRIME MINISTER'S PRINCIPAL CONCERNS ARE VERY CLEARLY INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES, WITH PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE BEING ATTACHED TO ACHIEVING A LIBERALIZATION IN GLOBAL TRADE. IN FRASER'S VIEW, THE MAJOR INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES ARE NOT TAKING A SUFFICIENT ACCOUNT OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCING NATIONS AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND IN THE ABSENCE OF A SATISFACTORY OFFER IN AGRICULT-
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URE, IN AUSTRALIA'S VIEW THE MTN WILL BE A FAILURE.

2. PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE THIS MORNING HAS ISSUED THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE:

"THE PRIME MINISTER WILL LEAVE AUSTRALIA IN EARLY JUNE FOR A VISIT TO NEW YORK, LONDON, PARIS AND BONN.
"WHILE IN NEW YORK HE WILL ADDRESS THE UNITED NATIONS SPEICAL

SESSION ON DISARMAMENT. IN NEW YORK THE PRIME MINISTER WILL ALSO MEET WITH LEADING BUSINESSMEN.

"FOLLOWING HIS VISIT TO NEW YORK, HE WILL MEET PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN IN LONDON ON 9 JUNE, PRIME MINISTER BARRE IN PARIS ON 13 JUNE, AND CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT IN BONN ON 16 JUNE.

"DURING THESE MEETINGS HE WILL RAISE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES SUCH AS THE PRESENT STATE OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY AND RELATIONS BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

"THE PRIME MINISTER ATTACHES PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO ACHIEVING A SUBSTANTIAL LIBERALIZATION IN GLOBAL TRADE.

"IN THE PRESENT ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS THE MAJOR INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES ARE NOT TAKING SUFFICIENT ACCOUNT OF THE INTERESTS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCING NATIONS AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

"UNLESS THERE IS A SATISFACTORY OFFER ON AGRICULTURE, THEN THE MTN WILL BE A FAILURE. IT WILL NOT IMPROVE THE TRADING PROSPECTS OF MANY OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND WOULD BE OF LITTLE VALUE TO AUSTRALIA.

"THERE IS A NEED FOR THE MAJOR DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING IN THEIR POSITION ON THE PROPOSED COMMON FUND FOR THE STABILIZATION OF COMMODITY PRICES.

"THIS IS A MATTER OF VITAL CONCERN TO MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE WILL BE MAKING THIS AND OTHER RELATED POINTS TO EUROPEAN LEADERS DURING HIS VISIT."

3. COMMENT: THERE IS NO MENTION OF THE EARLIER SPECULATION THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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FRASER MIGHT EXTEND A EUROPEAN/NORTH AMERICAN VISIT TO MOSCOW OR OTHER EAST EUROPEAN CAPITALS: WE ASSUEM THIS IDEA HAS NOW BEEN DROPPED.
ALSTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CANBER03981
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780217-0409
Format: TEL
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780531/aaaaazjp.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3ea00799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2609287
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIME MINISTER FRASER'S TRAVELS
TAGS: PEPR, PARM, OVIP, AS, US, UK, FR, GE, (FRASER, J MALCOLM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3ea00799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014